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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: H. Robert Horvitz et al.

Art Unit:

Serial No.:

Examiner:

Filed: May 24, 2000

Title: CLONING, SEQUENCING AND CHARACTERIZATION OF TWO  
CELL DEATH GENES AND USES THEREFOR

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the application as follows.

In the specification

Page 1, line 9, after "is" insert - a divisional of pending USSN 08/984,178, filed December 3, 1997, which is a continuation of USSN 08/287,669, filed August 9, 1994, now abandoned, which is a divisional of USSN 07/979,638, filed November 20, 1992, now abandoned, which is -.